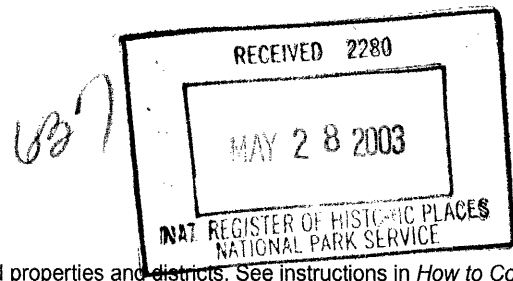


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Sprague Branch of the Salt Lake City Public Library

other name/site number Sprague Library

2. Location

street & town 2131 S. Highland Drive not for publication

city or town Salt Lake City vicinity

state Utah code UT county Salt Lake code 035 zip code 84106

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] SMW 4/1/03
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Utah Division of State History, Office of Historic Preservation
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:) _____

[Signature] 7/11/03
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property

(check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

| Contributing | Noncontributing | |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| 1 | 0 | buildings |
| _____ | _____ | sites |
| _____ | _____ | structures |
| _____ | _____ | objects |
| 1 | 0 | Total |

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Sugar House Business District Multiple Resource Area

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Function

(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION / Library

Current Function

(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION / Library

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS / Jacobethan Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE/sandstone

walls BRICK

STUCCO

roof STONE/slate

other TERRA COTTA

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 7

Sprague Branch of the Salt Lake City Public Library
Name of Property

Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, Utah
City, County and State

8. Description

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 8

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Areas of Significance

(enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION

SOCIAL HISTORY

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1928-1953

Significant Dates

1928

Significant Persons

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Ashton & Evans (Raymond J. Ashton and Raymond L. Evans)

Mr. Anderson, builder

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other Name of repository: _____

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 9

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 0.45 acres

UTM References

(Place additional boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

1 1/2 4/2/7/5/0/0 4/5/0/8/3/8/0
Zone Easting Northing

2 / / / / / / / / / / /
Zone Easting Northing

3 / / / / / / / / / / /
Zone Easting Northing

4 / / / / / / / / / / /
Zone Easting Northing

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Beg. 185 ft. S fr NW cor Lot 9, Blk 46, Ten Ac Plat A, Big Field Survey; S 132.65 ft.; E 204.1 ft.; NW alg concrete conduit of Parley's Creek to a pt. 90 ft. E from beg, W 90 ft. to beg.

Property Tax No. 16-20-207-004-0000

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries are those that were historically and continue to be associated with the property.

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 10

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Beatrice Lufkin, Historic Preservation Consultant

organization _____ date March 28, 2003

street & number 1460 Harrison Avenue telephone 801-583-8249

city or town Salt Lake City state UT zip code 84105

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs: Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items: (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

name/title Salt Lake City Corporation

street & number 451 South State Street telephone _____

city or town Salt Lake City state UT zip code 84111

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 7 Page 1

Sprague Branch, Salt Lake City Public Library, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, UT

Narrative Description

The Sprague Branch of the Salt Lake City Public Library was built in 1928 a half block south of the center of the Sugar House commercial district at 1100 East and 2100 South. It is constructed in the Jacobethan Revival style of brick masonry with the main gable roofline running north/south and cross gables to the east (reading room) and west (entrance vestibule and stairs). Its property boundary on the northwest is Parley's Creek, currently underground in a conduit, and the parking lot of the Sugar House Commons shopping center.

The building is a colorful combination of brick, stone, terra cotta, cast concrete, and slate with a rock-faced ashlar sandstone foundation in a pale buff color. The striated brick laid in an English bond ranges in tones from red to brown and the terra cotta accents are pale ivory. The slate roofing varies in color with predominant tones of grays, blues, and purple. The main entrance to the library is on the west facing 1100 East through a raised entrance vestibule under a small gable. A larger west-facing gable section has triple casement windows. Each window is tall and narrow with twelve rectangular lights, metal muntins and mullions, and wooden sash. A three-sided bay section to the south on the façade has the same windows. Half-timbering fills the tops of the north and south gable ends.

The first floor interior has coved ceilings and an open plan with the stacks in the north area, a reference desk and the main circulation desk in the central room and a smaller reading room and staff work area to the east. The interior space retains the open area with the high coved ceilings of the initial library space. The basement of the original building has more stack area, a large children's section, and public rest rooms.

Efforts have been made over the years to maintain and improve the building beginning in 1954 with work on the foundation and continuing with interior renovation in 1971. A 1989-90 remodeling project done by Brixen and Christopher, Architects, for \$405,000 using LSCA and Salt Lake City Public Library funds, stabilized the foundation, removed asbestos, added a rear entry/ handicapped access, installed an elevator, replaced lighting throughout, installed energy efficient heating and cooling systems, upgraded the electrical system, insulated the attic, and did other improvements.

Renovations completed in the spring of 2001, again by Brixen and Christopher, for \$939,000¹, included improvements to the children's area and the reading room on the main floor as well as the addition of a new community meeting room and staff office space in the newly excavated basement area with a leaded glass and copper skylight pyramid on the east plaza. The plaza serves as the roof of the addition and provides an outdoor gathering space to the east of the building. The new eastern entrance is in a sympathetic style, using the same materials as the original building. The copper clad skylight pyramid with leaded glass complements the building.

¹ News release from the Salt Lake City Public Library System, 3/27/2000. Available at the library.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 7 Page 2

Sprague Branch, Salt Lake City Public Library, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, UT

The building faces west, set back from the street, on 1100 East in a landscaped lot with mature trees and concrete walks leading to the oak doors at the raised entrance. The library retains its original appearance from the traditional entrance on 1100 East. The Sprague Branch library makes a significant contribution to the historic character of the Sugar House business area.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 8 Page 1

Sprague Branch, Salt Lake City Public Library, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, UT

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Sprague Branch of the Salt Lake City Public Library, built in 1928 by prominent local architects, Ashton and Evans, in the Jacobethan Revival style, is significant under Criterion A for its contribution as a community and educational facility to the history of the Sugar House business district. The original Sprague Branch of the Salt Lake City Public Library in Sugar House was established in 1914 and it has been an essential part of the community life of the Sugar House area. This particular building has provided a community gathering place for the people of the area and is a local architectural landmark. For this reason it is also significant under Criterion C. The Jacobethan Revival style building is the best example of its kind in the district and one of the best in the entire city, and has been well maintained. It has recently (2001) undergone an interior renovation with a sympathetic underground addition. However, the building retains its historical and architectural integrity. The Sprague Branch is being nominated as part of a multiple property submission, *Sugar House Business District Multiple Resource Area* under the context, "A City Within A City, 1910-1954."

History of Sugar House District

The settlement of the area later known as Sugar House began in 1848; the year after the Mormon pioneers entered the Salt Lake valley in 1847. Sugar House is four and a half miles southeast of the downtown area of Salt Lake City and located on land that was initially set apart for agricultural use in what was known as the Big Field Survey. Unlike most other early Utah Mormon communities, Sugar House was not a planned town but a settlement that grew in response to industrial and later transportation needs and opportunities. It was initially known as Canyon (or Kanyon) Creek from the stream that came through the area from the canyon directly to the east.² The creek was important in the development of Sugar House as it provided water for early settlement and agriculture and later powered the machinery for the early mill-related industries.

During the historic period, Sugar House changed from its beginnings as an early industrial center based on the waterpower of Parley's Creek to a commercial center for the population living in the southeast section of Salt Lake City. Transportation connections were important in the growth and development of Sugar House. Streetcar access on 1100 East and 900 East made it possible to live in the outlying areas and get rapidly to and from work in downtown Salt Lake City. Railroad connections helped the commercial center expand by directing passengers and freight through Sugar House. The main street in Sugar House, 2100 South, was part of the nation-spanning Lincoln Highway in the 1920s and later interstate U.S. 40. It was a major east-west road across the United States and routed traffic through the Sugar House business district. By the end of World War II Sugar House was modernizing its business center, removing the last of its streetcar tracks and planning for new shopping centers.

² Now known as Parley's Canyon and Parley's Creek after Parley C. Pratt, an early LDS leader.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 8 Page 2

Sprague Branch, Salt Lake City Public Library, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, UT

History of the Library in Sugar House

The first Sprague branch of the Salt Lake City Public Library in Sugar House was located at 1065 (also 1085) East 2100 South (now demolished) in rented quarters in the center of the business district. Its opening in 1914 coincided with the paving of the surrounding streets (1100 East, Highland Drive and 2100 South) and the installation of sewer and gas lines in the Sugar House district. The branch was created after repeated requests to the city from citizens of the Sugar House area. It was named for Joanna H. Sprague, an early head of the Salt Lake City public library, who spoke at the opening ceremonies. She began her work in Salt Lake City in 1898, the same year that the library was established, and oversaw the beginnings of the city branch library system during the forty-four years that she was associated with the city library. She earned a national reputation in her profession and was named president of the Pacific Northwest Library Association in 1928. The Sprague branch library was heavily used from the beginning with much community support, and its success spawned the current building.

The Salt Lake City Council and the Sugar House Businessmen's League were influential in the construction of the new branch building in 1928 on land that had been part of the Sugar House Park and donated by the city to the library.³ An effort was made during the design of the building to have the exterior "fit the park surroundings" and to not be of the "usual and conventional style."⁴ In 1933 the American Library Association declared the Sprague branch of the Salt Lake City Public Library the most beautiful branch library in America.⁵

The Sugar House community heavily uses the library. It is one of the busiest branches of the Salt Lake City Public Library system. *Salt Lake Magazine* readers voted it the "best sanctuary on Sunday" in 1999 for its reading room and relaxing atmosphere. Statewide, the Utah Heritage Foundation recognized it for the quality of its 1990 renovation and restoration. The Sugar House Community Master Plan refers to the Sprague Library as "a long-standing community gathering place."⁶ The building retains its historic integrity and contributes to the historic quality of the Sugar House Business District.

Architecture

Ashton and Evans, architects, designed the two-story building in the Jacobethan Revival style that was fashionable in Utah from 1900 to 1935. The style is based on English Renaissance motifs and is a variant of the popular English Tudor and English Cottage styles that are found in residential neighborhoods throughout Salt Lake City.⁷ Two other institutional buildings in the Sugar House area share the Jacobethan Revival style: Irving School (NR, 1978) at 1179 East 2100 South and Converse Hall at Westminster College (NR, 1978) at 1840 South 1300 East. The Sprague Branch has the characteristic style elements of a steeply pitched gable roof, decorative terra cotta and cast concrete door and window hoods, crenellated parapets, a variety of wall materials and a semi-hexagonal bay. Its form is similar to that of the period cottage commonly found in residential architecture with a projecting steep front gable and the side-gabled central portion.

³ The park followed the path of Parley's Creek in the area now known as "Hidden Hollow."

⁴ Joanna Sprague.

⁵ News release from the Salt Lake City Public Library System, 3/27/2000. Available at the library.

⁶ Sugar House Master Plan Update. November 16, 2001, p.15.

⁷ Joanna Sprague was called the style "domestic Tudor" in a speech given at the time the building was dedicated.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 8 Page 3

Sprague Branch, Salt Lake City Public Library, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, UT

As a partner with Charles S. McDonald in McDonald and Ashton, Raymond J. Ashton was earlier involved in the design of Irving School, another Jacobethan Revival building. McDonald's major commissions were school buildings in Salt Lake City but he also designed houses, theaters and commercial buildings during his practice that began in 1909. He worked with Frederick A. Hale before becoming a partner in the firm of McDonald and Cooper with Walter J. Cooper. After McDonald's early death in 1918, Raymond J. Ashton continued with the Jacobethan Revival theme as he made subsequent additions in 1926 and 1930 to the Irving School and used the same styling components in the construction of the Sprague Branch.

In 1923 Ashton and Raymond L. Evans formed the partnership of Ashton and Evans that later grew into Ashton, Evans, Brazier and Associates. Raymond L. Evans was born in Salt Lake City in 1895 and began his architectural career with Ware and Treganza before leaving to serve in France during World War I. During his career he designed more than 150 private homes as well as the Utah State Prison at Point-of-the-Mountain, the Federal Reserve Building, and the old Union Building, now the Music Hall on the University of Utah campus.

Ashton and Evans designed and built the Sprague Branch of the Salt Lake City Public Library building for \$36,000 in 1928 for the City of Salt Lake.⁸ They also designed another notable Sugar House building, the Redman Moving and Storage Warehouse⁹, in 1947, at 1240 East 2100 South. They were particularly known for their work for the LDS¹⁰ church, designing ward meetinghouses such as the Tudor revival Las Vegas Ward in Las Vegas, Nevada; the Kaysville Second Ward in Kaysville, Utah; and the Capital Hill LDS Ward (1928) in Salt Lake City.

⁸ Joanna Sprague letter. Available in Sprague scrapbook, at the branch.

⁹ Nominated to the National Register as part of this Multiple Property Submission.

¹⁰ Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints or Mormon.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. 9 Page 1

Sprague Branch, Salt Lake City Public Library, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, UT

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section No. PHOTOS Page 1 Sprague Branch, Salt Lake City Public Library, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, UT

Common Label Information:

1. Sprague Branch, Salt Lake City Public Library
2. Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, Utah
3. Photographer: B. Lufkin
4. Date: August 2002
5. Negative on file at Utah SHPO.

Photo No. 1:

6. West (façade) elevation of building. Camera facing east.

Photo No. 2:

6. West elevation of building (bay). Camera facing east.

Photo No. 3:

6. West elevation of building (entrance). Camera facing east.

Photo No. 4:

6. East elevation of building. Camera facing west.

Photo No. 5

6. East and north elevations of building (plaza). Camera facing southwest.

Photo No. 6:

6. North elevation of building. Camera facing south.

Photo No. 7:

6. East and north elevations. Camera facing southwest.

Photo No. 8:

6. North and west elevations of building with street. Camera facing southeast.

Photo No. 9:

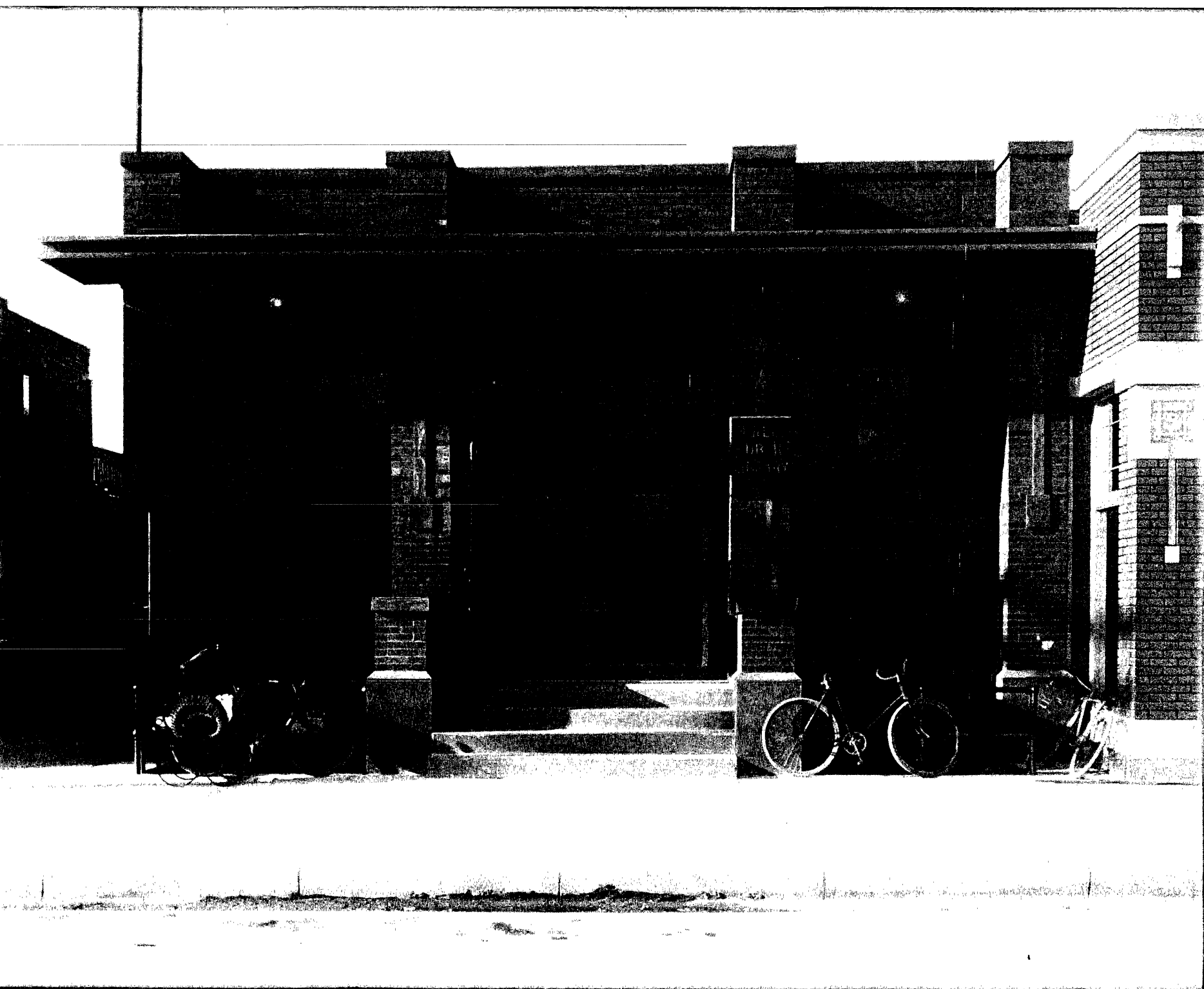
6. East elevation with light well. Camera facing southeast.



Shoeler #27143

4/4/1929

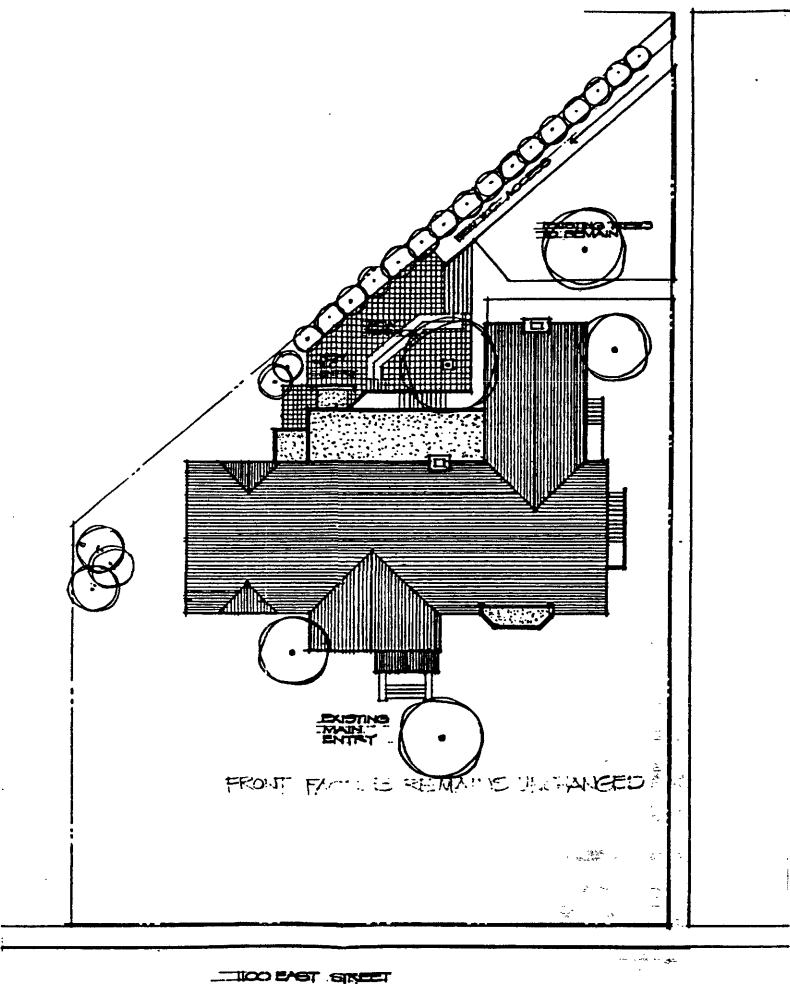
Sprague Branch SLC Public Library



Original Sprague Branch SLC Public Library

Shipler #B 275 #16857 4/10/1916 106 S E. 2100 South - 1st Sprague branch

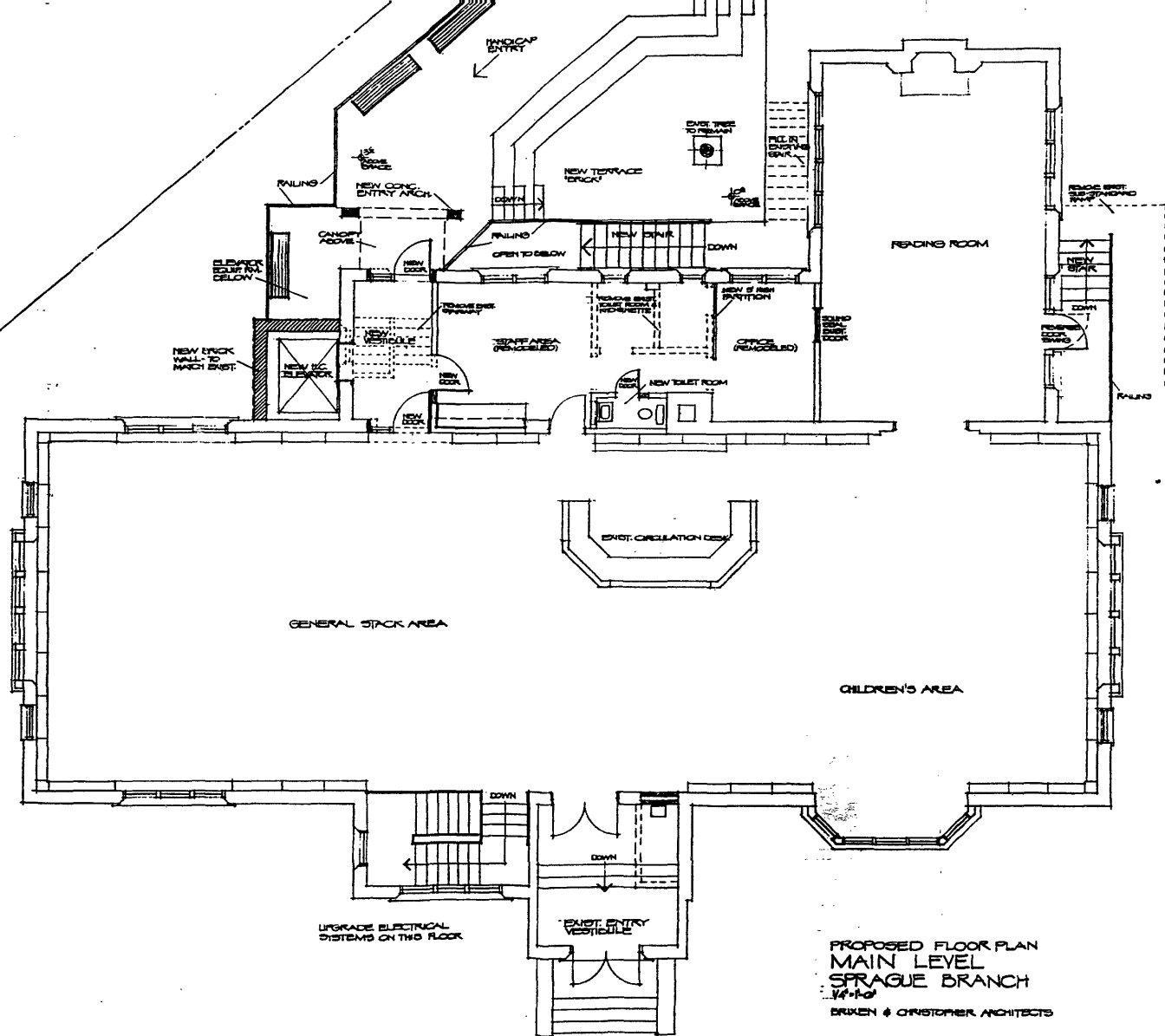
PROPOSED FUTURE
PARKING AREA



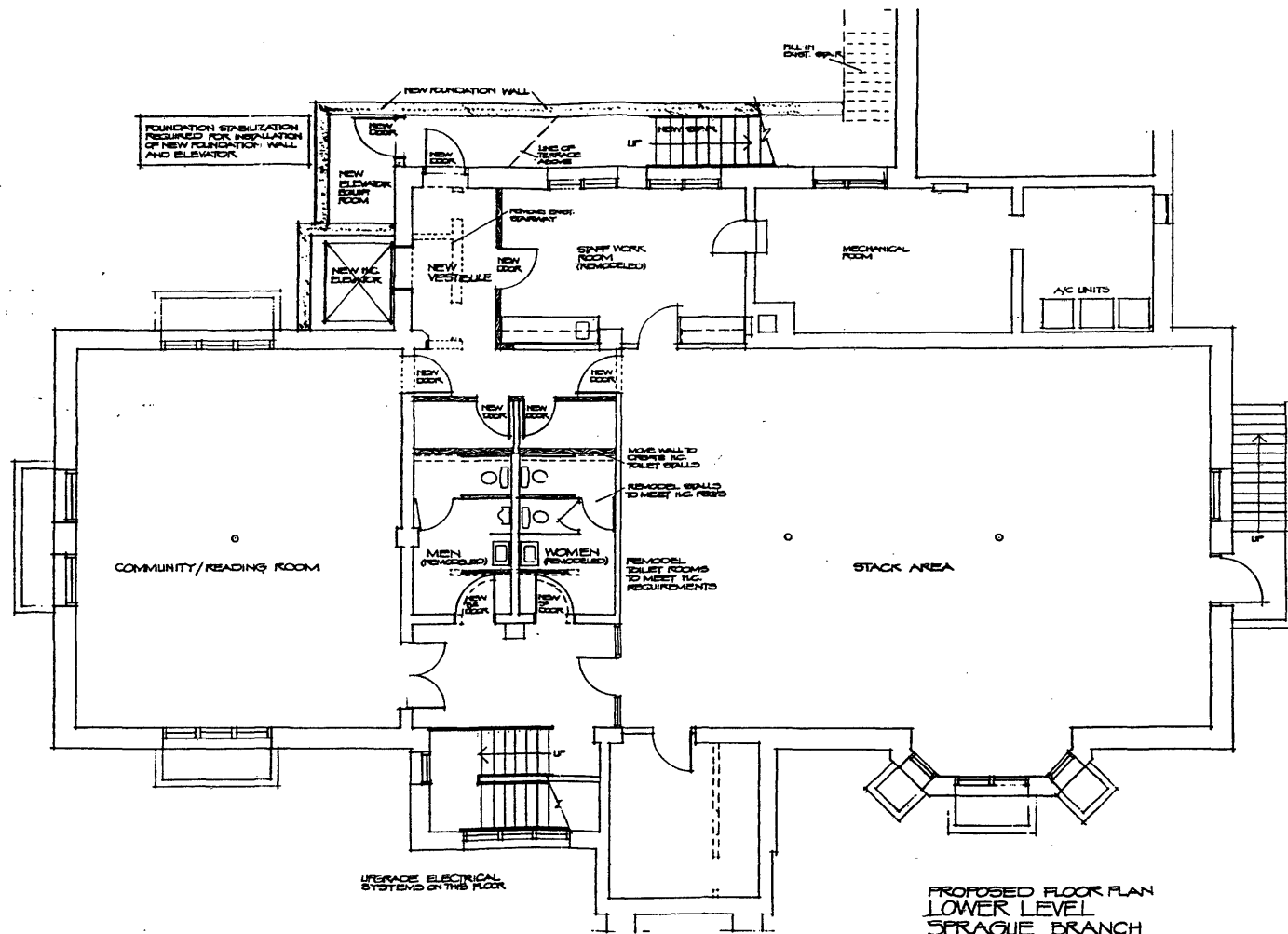
1920

2/3/15 ME
C-3

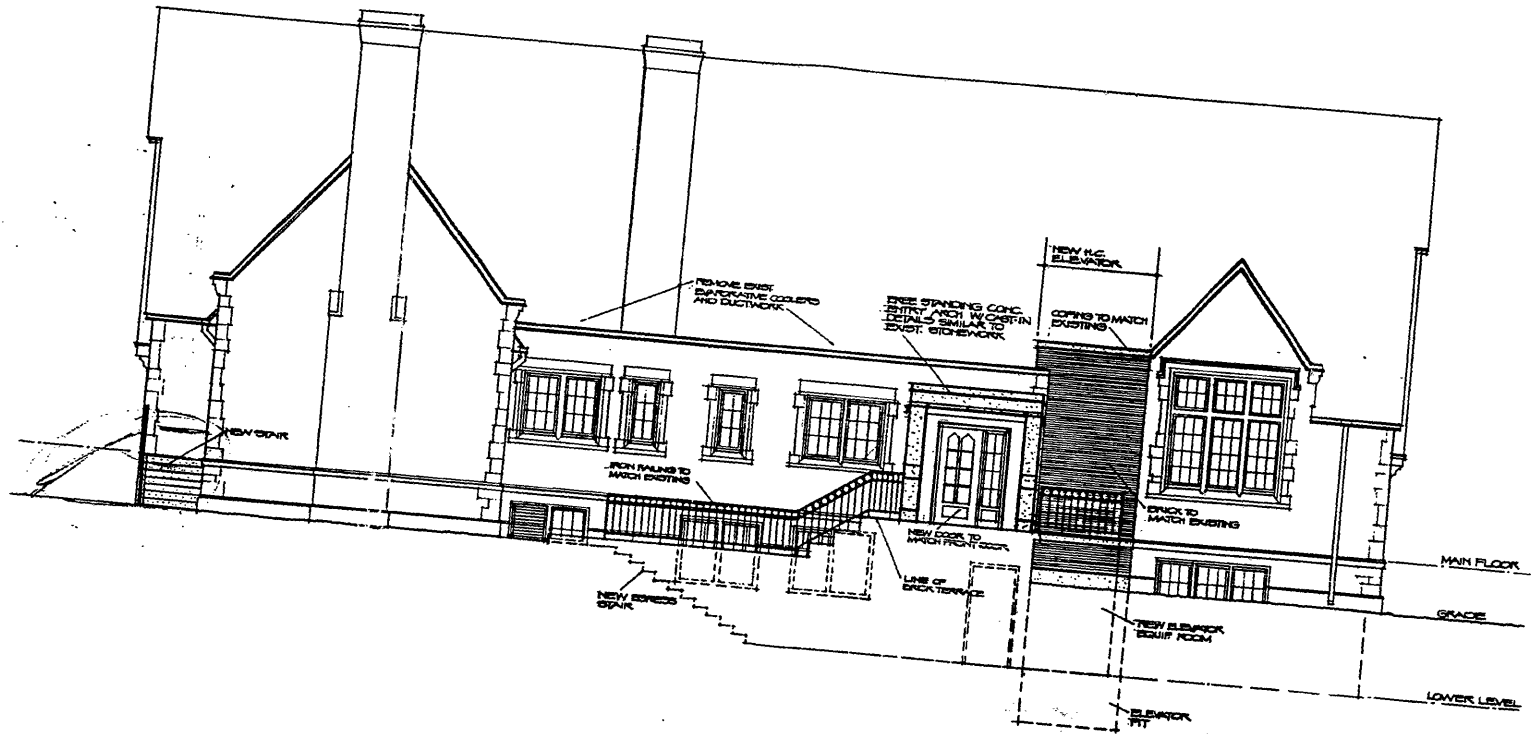
PROPOSED EXTERIOR WORK
 SITE PLAN
 SPRAGUE BRANCH
 1/8" = 1'-0" ← NORTH
 DIXON & CHRISTOPHER ARCHITECTS



PROPOSED FLOOR PLAN
 MAIN LEVEL
 SPRAGUE BRANCH
 1/4" = 1'-0"
 BRUKEN & CHRISTOPHER ARCHITECTS



PROPOSED FLOOR PLAN
 LOWER LEVEL
 SPRAGUE BRANCH
 1/6/04
 BRUKEN & CHRISTNER ARCHITECTS



PROPOSED ELEVATION
 EAST ELEVATION
 SPRAGUE BRANCH
 1/4" = 1'-0"
 BROKEN & CHRISTOPHER ARCHITECTS